

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Kindly cancel Claim 2 and amend Claims 1, 3 and 4 as follows.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A connector comprising a pair of connector housings capable of fitting on coupling with each other,

one of said connector housings comprising:

a locking arm elastically deformable toward a flexing space by ~~contact~~ contacting with a locking arm contact portion formed on the other of said connector housings[[,]] during ~~performing of a fitting operation~~ coupling of said connector housings [[on]] with each other, said locking arm returning to [[its]] an original state when said connector housings have been normally fitted [[on]] with each other and are locked to one another, thereby holding said connector housings in a locked state;

a fit-on detection member disposed within a height of said flexing space, said fit-on detection member ~~to detect~~ detecting whether said connector housings are in ~~said~~ a normal fit-on state by determining whether said fit-on detection member can be pressed into said flexing space,

~~said fit on detection member including an elastic arm elastically deformable in association with an elastic deforming operation of said locking arm; said fit-on detection member is approximately U-shaped, with elastic arms being connected to a front portion of said one connector housing in a fit-on direction;~~

a first guide surface, formed on an opposed surface of each of said elastic arms, said first guide surface inclined in a widthwise direction of said fit-on detection member, said

first guide surface slides in contact with said locking arm for guiding said elastic arms, which deform elastically outward, in said widthwise direction, of said fit-on detection member, when said locking arm elastically deforms;

a stopping surface formed on an outer surface of each of said elastic arms, said stopping surface being locked to a rear end of a protection wall erected at both sides of said locking arm of said one connector housing in a widthwise direction and said stopping surface extending in a front-to-back direction when said elastic arms elastically deform and a receiving portion formed on at least one of said elastic arm arms and locked to a locking portion formed on said one connector housing when said elastic arm is elastically deformed, whereby said fit-on detection member is prevented from pressing into said flexing space;

whereby when said connector housings are in said normal fit-on state, said elastic arm arms of said fit-on detection member returns to an original state by elastic deformation which occurs in association with a restoring operation of said locking arm to its original state, and said receiving portion is unlocked from said locking portion, whereby said fit-on detection member can be pressed into said flexing space.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A connector according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein said locking arm is cantilevered and extends rearward, with a front end serving as a base;

 said fit-on detection member is held at a position proximate to said base of said locking arm; and

each of said elastic arms has a second guide surface inclining in a front-to-back direction of said fit-on detection member and in sliding contact with said locking arm when said locking arm elastically deforms thereby moving said fit-on detection member rearward in combination with said elastic deformation of each of said elastic arms.

4. (Currently Amended) A connector according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein said elastic arms are elastically deformable outward in a widthwise direction of said fit-on detection member.